

SLIDELL CHURCH OF CHRIST

**994 Old Spanish Trail
Slidell, LA 70458-5016**

PHONE/ FAX: (985) 643-4826

April 5, 2015

Christ Risen

by: William B. Tappan (1794-1849)

Darkly o'er thee, Palestine!
Hangs the mystic veil of night;
Land of Shinar, grief is thine,
Quenched the glory of thy light,--
Where is now the promise given
To thy sires of ancient day?
Where, O where, the lamp of heaven,
To direct the wanderer's way?

Ye who, favoured, saw Him, tell
Of his mien, beyond compare;
Ye who marked Him when he fell,
Say, was not the Godhead there?
Yet he writhed beneath the rod--
Anguish sat upon his brow--
Men have triumphed in his blood,
And the marble holds him now.

Wherefore then the golden beam,
Springing up the eastern sky;
Bright, yet soft as morning's dream,
When night's empire passes by?
Wherefore then the choral hymn,
Floating on the wavy air--
Why hath ope'd the marble tomb?
JESUS sleeps no longer there!

He hath risen!--crushed his power--
Lo, in dust the arch-fiend lies;
He hath risen!--glorious hour!
We who sleep in him shall rise;
Welcome death! each sorrow closing,
Now thy features smiles do wear;
Welcome grave! to flesh reposing,
JESUS is the victor there.

Today's Sermon

a.m. "If Christ Be Not Risen"

1 Corinthians 15:1-8, 12-19

**p.m. *Opportunity for discussion
and reflection on the morning
message***

Welcome Visitors

We are pleased to have the opportunity to welcome you to our service. We think you will find our congregation family to be one that enthusiastically embraces newcomers and warmly welcomes them into our fellowship. We hope you feel right at home as you join us in worship, praise and thanksgiving.

"REMEMBER IN PRAYER

&

ENCOURAGE"



With Visits, Calls, & Cards

Dave Gilstrap - former member here, gravely ill, has been admitted to hospice in Titusville, Florida.

Two brothers of **Sally Hestle**, former member here: **Lewis R. Ingerson** is home from the hospital and is slowly getting better. His stomach won't hold much food for now, 3 or 4 bites a meal.

Mike Ingerson is home from hospital on hospice care. (from *Facebook* yesterday)

Jesse Fowler's first cousin, **Robert Gordon**, passed away early last week. A memorial service was held in Granada, MS was last Thursday. Fowlers may return home this coming Wednesday.

Joshua & Christian Hankins (grandsons of Courtney & Linda Cheri), battling recurring strep infections in Oil Trough, Arkansas, and this also threatens their mom, **Kendra Hankins**.

Charlie (grandson of George & Fairie Roig), experiencing better health now.

Irvin Briant Sr., & Irvin Briant Jr. (Gregory Briant's dad and brother) – health issues.

Alexis Leonard – suffering a hurt knee.

Albert Dinapolis – former neighbor of Joyce Carter, suffering congestive heart failure.

Colton Roig – for his faith-walk with the Lord.

Janet Despenza - continuing to recover well at home from recent cervical vertebrae surgery.

Nayla Mustafa – thanksgiving that she has experienced some improvement in her health.

Harold Evans (Sharon's husband) – had a successful surgery to remove a benign mass from his pancreas last Wednesday.

Clara Leonard - sore after a recent fall.

Sheri Roig – having continuing medical tests renewed tomorrow.

Margaret Schillinger – thanksgiving that she has made major progress in alleviating her arthritis pain and swelling.

Pearlington church of Christ - struggling to be able to support a preacher.

Pray for all who are travelling.

Pray for the Spanish Bible study.

Pray for our elders: Courtney Cheri, Dwight Jones and Gerald Molina.

Pray for President Obama and all our elected officials.

Pray for our men and women in our armed forces, both here and abroad!

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Some things Discussed at our Congregational Meeting last Sunday, 29 March 2015

The elders set forward **Hector Urbina** to serve as an additional deacon of this congregation. If no valid biblically-based objections are presented to them on why Hector should not serve in this capacity, then he will be so appointed and recognized in the near future at a date set by the elders.

The elders announced their intentions to sell all of our present fourteen church properties, starting with donated properties not at this main 994 Old Spanish Trail address, as soon as possible. This is for the purpose of raising funds in order that we may purchase a new sufficient lot somewhere in the Slidell area north of I-12, for the erection of new church facilities.

A committee is being formed from among our members to liaison with Evonne Machen, commercial realtor, who grew up in this congregation, to accomplish these goals. More will be announced about this committee this morning.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

What Does the Bible Say about Sexual Cohabitation?
(part 6 & final)

Adapted from
http://www.gospelway.com/morality/sexual_cohabitation.php, accessed 24 July 2013

Other Passages Showing
God's Will for Marriage

Romans 7:2, 3

In marriage the woman is bound to her husband as long as he lives (cf. 1 Cor. 7:39). The marriage “bond” is a lifetime commitment, and God holds people to the commitment they made, even if later they try to break it. This is what is God meant by “cleaving” to one another.

If the woman (or man) who is married seeks to leave the marriage and have the sexual union with someone else, that person is guilty of adultery. Adultery involves having the sexual union with someone other than the one person with whom you have a lifetime marriage commitment. When a couple simply starts living together, do they have a lifetime commitment? Do they intend to keep themselves sexually only for one another for life? If not, then they are not obeying God’s command for marriage, and they have no right to the sexual union at all.

Matthew 19:3-9

When a man and woman are joined in marriage, as described in Gen. 2:24, they are not to end that bond for any reason other than because their spouse has committed fornication. God has joined them and they must not separate. This is what is meant by “cleave to one another.”

When a couple simply starts living together, have they committed themselves to a bond they will not separate? If not, they are not scripturally married and have no right to the sexual union.

Malachi 2:14-16

God hates putting away (v. 16). Again, divorce is contrary to God’s will. Why? Because marriage is a covenant (agreement) between a man and his wife (v14). God is a witness to that covenant, and He holds them to it (v14). If a man violates the covenant, he is dealing treacherously with his wife, and God will hold him accountable. [Prov. 2:17; Ezek. 16:8]

Though this is an Old Testament passage, it shows us the definition of marriage, which Jesus said has not changed. Marriage is, by God’s definition, a solemn mutual commitment between a man and woman to live together as husband and wife for life.

God holds them to that bond and will not free them from it, even if people declare them to be free.

When a couple simply starts living together, do they have a mutual commitment to be man and wife for life - a commitment that they enter with the intent to never break it? If not, they are not obeying God’s law for marriage and they have no right to the sexual union.

Romans 13:1-5; 1 Peter 2:13, 14

Just as God ordained marriage, so He ordained civil law, and He requires us to obey it (unless the rulers command us to do something sinful against God’s law - Acts 5:29).

All civil governments have laws defining what constitutes marriage. God commands us to obey those laws. It follows that we have no right to consider ourselves married until we have obeyed civil laws that define us to be married.

Obviously cohabiting couples have not obeyed the civil requirements for marriage. Therefore, they are not married and have no right to the sexual union.

It follows from all this that people who merely live together are not married. Therefore, their relationship constitutes fornication or adultery. God will judge them for their sin.

Conclusion

We began by citing evidence that cohabiting without marriage creates problems.

But there are reasons why this is true. One major reason is that married people have made a serious lifetime commitment to do what is best for one another. They may sometimes fail to live up to their commitment. But unmarried people don’t even have such a commitment! They have far less reason to treat one another by God’s rules of marriage - they have not even agreed to follow those rules.

But the main reason that marriage is better for people is not a matter of statistics or human studies. We can be sure marriage is best because God says so. God always knows what is best, and He reveals what is best in His word. So when people make a commitment to follow God’s word, the result is best for everyone involved.

People who are guilty of fornication or adultery can be forgiven.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 - Some in the church in Corinth had been guilty of fornication and adultery, but they were washed and cleansed by the blood of Jesus. But note that this required them to cease their sin. [Luke 15:30; Heb. 11:31; James 2:25]

Specifically, repentance requires those who are committing fornication to cease it. If they are living together without marriage, they must cease living

together without marriage. They must bring forth the fruits of repentance (Acts 26:20). [Eph. 5:1-11; 1 Thess. 4:3-8]

You too can be forgiven, regardless of your sin. Will you believe in Jesus, repent, confess Christ, be baptized, and live a faithful life?

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Our Leaders!

Elders

Dwight Jones
Courtney Cheri
Gerald Molina

Preacher

Dan Schillinger

Deacons

Jesse Fowler
James Richardson

Our Services

Sunday Morning Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

Ladies Bible Class Tuesday 10:30 am